



# The Exponent

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Chagrin Falls Historical Society*

87 East Washington St. 440-247-4695 [www.chagrinhistorical.org](http://www.chagrinhistorical.org)

John Bourisseau, Editor

'like' us on Facebook

March, 2016

## Thank you Sponsors!!

Our Sponsors are critical to the success of your Historical Society. Please frequent their businesses and thank them for their support.

### Legacy

Ted and Michelle McQuade  
The Chagrin Valley Times  
Hemlock Landscapes, Inc.

### Heritage

Cowan's Auctions  
Hamlet Village  
Elizabeth Juliano  
Phil Koepf, Architect  
Dwight & Mary Milko, RE/MAX Traditions  
Timan Custom Window Treatments, Inc  
Polcar, Brahler, Heil, Belden of Wells Fargo Advisors

### Curator

AQUA DOC  
Scott and Steven Balogh  
Jan Evans, Evans Printing  
Tod & Susan White

### Docent

Anonymous  
John and Mary Bourisseau  
Bill and Gretchen Hamann  
Myers Precision Grinding, Inc.  
Todd & Jodi Lyle  
Cliff & Diana Nazelli  
John & Margi O'Brien  
Carolyn and Herbert Sihler, Jr.

### Historian

Door to Door Solutions, Inc.  
Paddock Group  
Ray and Kathy Kolcaba  
Michael J. Perry  
Earth and Waterscapes, Inc



\$1.23M



## Horses, Horses, Horses

Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 7:30 pm  
Lawrence J. 'Bo' Burr Community Room

Join us on St. Patrick's Day for a fun evening with Betty Weibel, Author of **The Cleveland Grand Prix: An American Show Jumping First**. Betty will share with us the history of horse racing, riding and jumping in the Chagrin Valley.

Bake your favorite cookies to share. Call Patti Widmar at 216-409-1455 or email [pwidmar@roadrunner.com](mailto:pwidmar@roadrunner.com) if you are bringing cookies.

Chagrin Falls  
Historical  
Society



AND MUSEUM



## Moving

We have finally begun the arduous task of bringing the rest of our collection from 21 Walnut St. to the new building. This is not an easy undertaking! Just as a refresher—our initial move involved bringing the majority of items from the main floor exhibits and the basement over to 87. These items had to be carefully marked and packed, some were photographed and entered into our data base.

Then, we moved most everything from the attic (remember the movers estimated there was about 9000 lbs of stuff in the attic) down to the main floor, and we were full again. All of these items need to be gone through and catalogued in some way before they are moved. This is something that only Pat and Jane can really do. We are finding some things that we didn't know that we had, and we are finding some things that we don't really need. But it is important that every item be looked at and assessed.

Helping Pat & Jane this past week—and making significant headway, were Sally Hawkins, Janice Hill, Carolyn Sihler and Zo Sykora. Marnie Albers has taken loving control of the doll collection, recording each doll as she packs them into storage boxes. There will be many more opportunities for volunteers once the items are catalogued and packed.

**John Bourisseau**

## THANK YOU TO JOHN, KEN, JANE AND SALLY

Many thanks to President **John Bourisseau** for plowing, shoveling and salting the driveway and walkways at the Historical Society this winter. Thanks to **Ken Kvacek** for moving things from one floor to another and from our old building to our new building. Kudos to both for getting our trash and recycling cans to the street and for setting up tables and chairs and taking down tables and chairs for our various events and doings. Director **Jane Babinsky** and Ken went to the Cleveland Museum of Art recently to wait in line to get free display units for our museum and then loaded them up in a trailer and brought them to Chagrin. Assistant Curator, **Sally Hawkins**, is always willing to tote and carry things from one place to another and continues to assist with the move from 21 Walnut Street. We could not function as a museum and archives without these hard working folks whom you will find at 87 East Washington almost everyday.

**Zo Sykora** Photo Chairman

## IRA Charitable Rollover

The IRS has made permanent the ability for you to make a gift to the Historical Society directly from your IRA.

We recently received a generous gift of over \$25,000. Making a gift directly from your IRA to the Historical Society has several advantages.

- The gift is included in your minimum required distribution.
- Contributions from your IRA do not count toward your gross income; they are contacted rollovers.
- IRA donations are a simple way to make a tremendous impact on your Historical Society and may be made at any time during the course of the year.

To be eligible:

- You must be at least 70 1/2 years old.
- Your gift must go directly from your IRA to the Historical Society.
- The sum of your IRA gifts cannot total more than \$100,000 per year.

For specific information about the IRA Charitable Rollover contact your financial advisor, and then give us a call.

**Carolyn Sihler**



## Condolences to the Families of

**Ginny Fast**  
**Grace Shields**  
**Diane Kiffner**  
**Barbara Hubbard**  
**Margaret Stratton**



An example of the types of display cases mentioned in Jane and Zo's article. Ken and Jane were able to fight the crowd and get some very nice cases and other display items. Thank you The Cleveland Museum of Art!

## Notes from the Director's Office

April 15<sup>th</sup> will soon be here and many of you have inquired about tax receipts for your donations. The official Thank You letters we send out are your tax receipts, so, please keep them for your files. Your donation amount with the date and our 501(c)(3) status are included in the letter. Any item(s) or service that you donate has to be valued by you or an appraiser. The CFHS cannot do this, therefore, if you don't give us a value for the item(s) we cannot give a value in your Thank You letter.

We are still in need of Volunteer Receptionists for the Saturday 11:00 am – 1:00pm shift. Please call me (Jane) at (440)247-4695 if you are interested.

The exhibits are changing this month. We are excited that we have received some very expensive used display cases from the Cleveland Museum of Art! They were all on my wish list and will be of great value to our museum.

**Jane Babinsky**, Museum Director

## Sally Taft Shares History of Valentines

A crowd of 35 members and nonmembers gathered on February 18, to hear Sally Taft describe the early days of valentine making. It began in the late 18th century and she shared how the styles had evolved over the years.

The creativity of manufacturers and progress in the paper industry, which included invention of the envelope and lace paper making machinery, had a huge impact. Sally also displayed the Taft Family Valentine Collection, which the family has generously donated to the historical society. Thank you, Sally and Barnes!

Thank you to the Program Committee and Hospitality Chairs, Patti and Jeff Widmar, and to all who baked cupcakes.

**Anne Burr**, Program Chair

## Henry Church Documentary

Rev. Mark Simone is creating a film for the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival that will be shown next October. As a first step, Mark has interviewed Jane Babinsky, the g-g granddaughter of Henry Church Jr. and John Bourisseau. Mark is working with a videographer who will utilize a drone to get scenes throughout the Village and the sites in the MetroParks. Last year Mark created a video about the works of Nancy Martt. Nancy is known for her murals and composite images of the homes and barns around Chagrin. The Historical Society has one of her prints for sale at the museum.

## Ohio History Connection

The Ohio History Connection, formerly known as the Ohio Historical Society, has been providing grants to local historical societies for the past few years.

These grants are funded by a tax checkoff on your Ohio Income Tax form. If you are due a refund, you can designate a portion of your refund to go to the Ohio History Fund. They, in turn, disperse 100% of the funds to local historical societies in the form of grants. The amount of money generated by the check off was down considerably last year and if it doesn't reach the threshold of \$150,000, then this source of funding will no longer be available.

Please support local historical societies throughout the State by contributing in this way—it's easy!

**John Bourisseau**



## Know your Antiques

Bring a friend or two and learn about the membership benefits of the Know Your Antiques Club and the Historical Society. Jane Babinsky will provide a tour and overview of resources available to members of the Historical Society. Kathryn Garvey will share information about the Know Your Antiques Club and their programs and membership. Finger foods and refreshments will be served at this informal gathering.

March 16 - 7:30-9pm at the Historical Society. For those that are able, please park at the school and enter through the back gate.

**Kathryn Garvey**

## Rec Center Film

For many years we have looked at a film container at the museum labeled Rec Center. The 16mm film inside was unknown to us. Bob Shimits, President of the Solon Historical Society brought over a projector and we watched a promotional film in color made by the Rec Council sometime around 1950. What fun! Watch this space for future information about this 1/2 hour film.

**John Bourisseau**

**Curator's Corner**



**Overview Calendar**

March

- 3 Girl Scout Brownie Troop visit with "Program and Tour" by Sally Hawkins and Pat Zalba
- 7 Solon 'Red Hat' Group will visit for a short program and tour led by John Bourisseau 10-11:30 am
- 7 Jaycees Foundation Lawrence J. "Bo" Burr Community Room and Gallery 6:30-8pm
- 8 C.F. Historical Society Board Meeting at 87 E. Washington St. 9:30 am.
- 8 American Legion Meeting 7:30 pm in the Lawrence J. "Bo" Burr Community Room.
- 16 Know Your Antiques Group, Meeting and Tour 7:30-9:30 pm (see article)
- 17 "Horses, Horses, Horses" Evening Program in the Lawrence J. "Bo" Burr Community Room 7:30 pm. Author Betty Weibel will share some of the local history of horse racing, riding and jumping.
- 19 DAR Meeting 9:30 am Lawrence J. "Bo" Burr Community Room.

**Welcome to New Members**

Eva Broz

Emily & Matthew Hicks

Julia & Stuart Lipp

**Memorial Gifts**

A gift in memory of

**Herb Sihler** by

**Nancy Janoch**

A gift in memory of

**Jack Bennett** by

**Pat Zalba**

A Gift in memory of **Paul**

**Timko** by

**Scott & Jennifer Stevens**

Gifts in Memory of

**Gini Fast**

**Nancy & David Carpenter**

**Arline Moore**

**John Bourisseau**

**R. Timothy Maroney**

**Ted & Kathy Kagy**

**Laura Gorretta**

**John Fast**

**Jane Korsburg**

**Seki Mamoru**

**Virginia Hall**

**Masahiko Yoshikawa**

**Lucy Beattie**

Gifts in Memory of

**Grace Shields**

**John Bourisseau**

**Laura Gorretta**

A gift in *Honor* of

**Zo Sykora**

**Marge Junglas**

**Accessions with a Chagrin Falls Connection:**

After her interesting and entertaining program about "The Evolution of Valentines", Sally Taft donated her entire wonderful collection of Valentines to our museum for future generations to enjoy. And they are already stored in conservation boxes!

Thank you **Sally Taft**

Another interesting "shadow box valentine", circa 1930's, was donated that evening.

Thank you **Muriel Bean**

Two Chagrin Falls Postmaster appointment certificates, in frames, were received this past month. Homer Kent was appointed to the post by President William McKinley in 1899. Mr. Kent was reappointed by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1907.

Thank you **Marilyn Weber**

**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

**Pat Zalba**





